

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1-23, 25-37, 39-42, 44-53, 55-63, and 85-90 are pending. By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 24, 38, 43, 54, 64-84 and 91-96 are canceled, subject to Applicants' rights to pursue this subject matter later during prosecution in this and/or a continuing application.

Prompt and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_



Paul T. Bowen  
Reg. No. 38,009

PTB:jck  
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor  
Arlington, VA 22201-4714  
Telephone: (703) 816-4000  
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100